

Wayne Allard

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SENATOR ALLARD SECURES \$12 MILLION FOR WIDENING, IMPROVING HIGHWAY 50

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-CO), Chairman of the Senate Housing and Transportation Subcommittee, has secured \$12 million to widen Highway 50 from Las Animas to Lamar into a four-lane roadway in the final version of the transportation authorization bill that emerged from a conference committee on Wednesday. The transportation bill is expected to be approved by the House and Senate by Friday and signed into law by President Bush early next week.

Senator Allard was a member of the House-Senate Conference Committee that ironed out differences between the U.S. House and Senate versions of the transportation legislation and secured a total of \$110 million for specific transportation projects above the statewide funding formula for Colorado.

“Upgrading Highway 50 to a four-lane highway from Pueblo to the state line has been a transportation priority of the people of the Lower Arkansas Valley for more than a generation,” said Senator Allard. “Today, we can say that their voices have been heard.”

“Improving Highway 50 will be an enormous benefit for those who reside in southeastern Colorado,” Senator Allard said. “Six years ago, a Colorado task force recommended that U.S. 50 should be upgraded to four lanes across the state as a way of taking traffic off Interstate 70 through the Denver metro area. We are now beginning to make that recommendation a reality.”

“My conference committee appointment put me in the position to ensure that these projects were included the final version of the bill,” Senator Allard said. “I felt it was important that communities whose transportation needs have previously been ignored or not made a priority, be made a priority.”

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